

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending July 21, 1996

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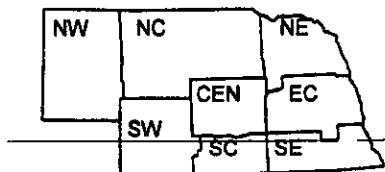
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Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
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WEATHER

Temperatures for the week were near normals across the State. Precipitation averaged from about a tenth of an inch in the north central to one and a half inches in the south central with locally heavy amounts in excess of six inches.

GENERAL

Wheat harvest made excellent progress last week, although slowed early in the week by damp weather conditions, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Hail, high winds, tornadoes, and excessive rain in the west and eastern portions of the State damaged crops and buildings. Reports of stalk snap in corn and flooding of fields were received. Additionally, much of the State had been without rain for over two weeks which, along with high temperatures, stressed dryland crops and lowered topsoil moisture. Producer activities included weed control, irrigating crops, and putting up hay.

CROPS

Winter wheat harvest progressed very well last week with 52% combined to date. This compared with 48% last year and 63% for the five-year average. High humidity and damp conditions have caused slow dry down. Harvesting delays are resulting in weed problems in some areas.

Corn condition dropped slightly last week and rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 50% good, and 24% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 81% good to excellent while dryland corn rated 60% good to excellent. Severe weather along with heat and drought stress, prior to last weeks' rains, resulted in the decrease.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybean growth and development also made excellent progress last week with 37% of the crop blooming by week's end. This is ahead of last year's 18% and less than a week behind the average of 44%. Weed control activities continued. Condition rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 25% fair, 53% good, and 18% excellent.

Sorghum condition rated 3% poor, 33% fair, 52% good, and 12% excellent. Heading was beginning in a few areas but statewide, less than 1% had headed to date. Weed control continued active.

Oats harvest progressed to 32% complete as of Sunday. Progress remained behind last year's 35% and the average of 43%.

Dry bean condition rated 3% poor, 33% fair, 60% good, and 4% excellent. About 38% of the crop was blooming, ahead of last year at 8%. Plants were beginning to set pods in a few fields in most of the growing areas.

Alfalfa condition rated 6% poor, 35% fair, 47% good, and 12% excellent. Second cutting activities moved ahead last week with 69% harvested to date. This compared with 57% last year and 62% average. Wild hay condition rated 2% poor, 25% fair, 59% good, and 14% excellent. Harvest was active.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 5% poor, 38% fair, 49% good and 8% excellent. Deterioration of condition continued where lack of rainfall or severe weather damaged or limited the growth. Areas receiving moisture have pastures providing excellent grazing potential.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF JULY 21, 1996	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Ripe	80	99	86	99	96	99	100	100	90	49	72	90
% Wheat Harvested	26	15	12	55	64	65	90	98	52	26	48	63
% Corn Silked	2	21	15	31	44	20	64	60	36	7	7	44
% Soybeans Blooming	0	50	13	53	44	53	35	53	37	10	18	44
% Oats Harvested	29	17	25	32	45	8	47	68	32	6	35	43
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	30	81	56	81	86	76	85	93	69	46	57	62
% Dry Beans Blooming	41	45	26	n/a	n/a	30	20	n/a	38	13	8	22
% Dry Beans Podded	2	10	10	n/a	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	n/a

DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 19, 1996

Days suitable	5.5	6.8	5.0	6.6	6.3	5.0	4.5	6.6	5.8	6.0	7.0
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	11	12	0	21	5	2	18	9	2	20
(Percent) - Short	30	51	11	60	44	46	10	63	37	41	42
- Adequate	70	38	54	40	33	49	87	18	50	56	37
- Surplus	0	0	23	0	2	0	1	1	4	1	1
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	1	0	9	2	2	6	3	1	2
(Percent) - Short	15	36	16	44	55	44	13	65	34	28	28
- Adequate	85	64	65	55	34	54	85	29	60	69	70
- Surplus	0	0	18	1	2	0	0	0	3	2	0

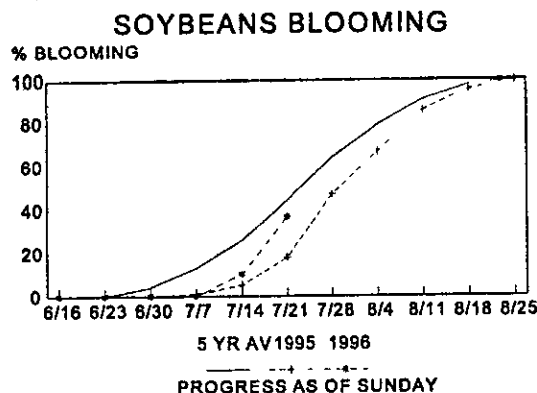
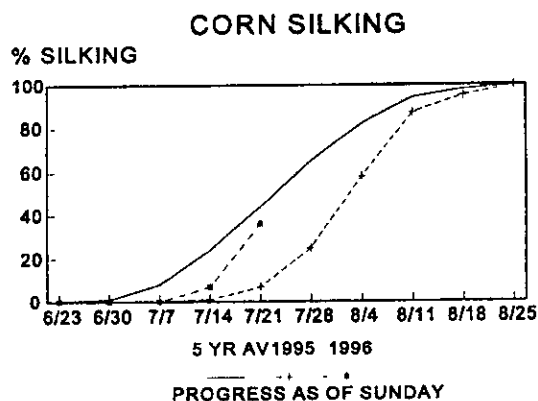
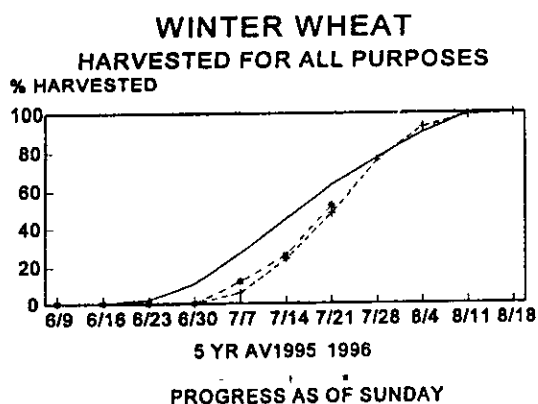
n/a = not available.

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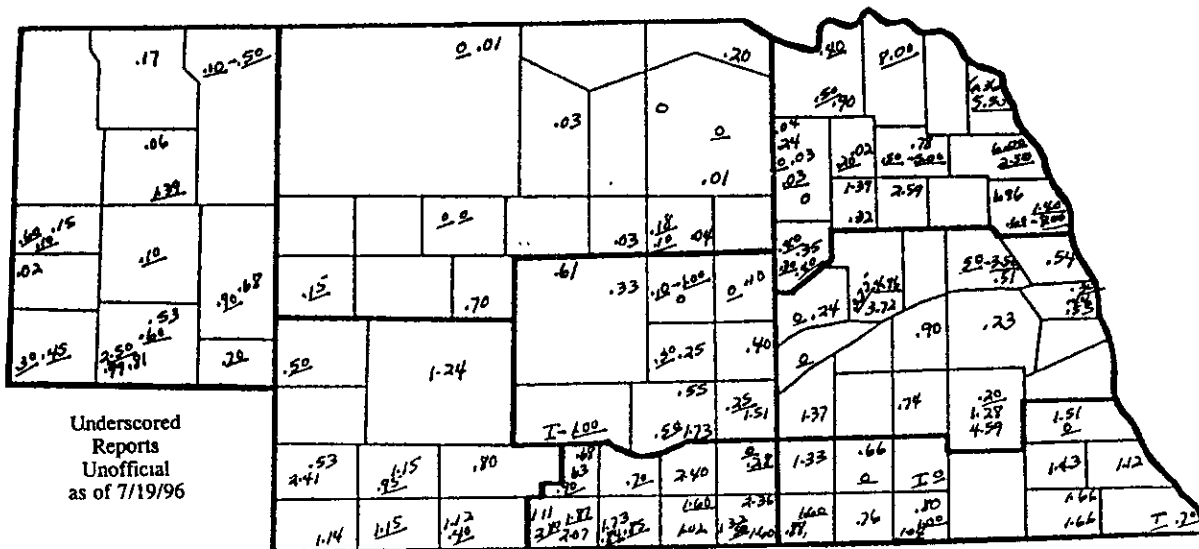
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1996



	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.43	.13	1.04	.61	1.26	1.20	1.49	1.18
Total since April 1	8.26	9.64	11.81	13.31	17.35	12.12	18.34	14.03
Normal since April 1	9.37	11.03	12.48	12.15	13.25	10.49	11.95	13.31
Total as % of normal	88%	87%	95%	109%	131%	116%	153%	105%

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1996
GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 21, 1996

GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 21, 1990									
Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	99	49	76	---	.17	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	96	51	74	-1	.15	1161	1242	1374
	Sidney	96	49	75	---	.81	1106	1276	1325
NC	Valentine	102	46	76	+1	.01	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	1110	1278	1389
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	1131	1302	1501
NE	Norfolk	93	57	75	-1	1.39	---	---	---
	Sioux City	90	58	74	-2	6.36	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1188	1366	1605
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1189	1376	1617
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	1278	1464	1623
CEN	Grand Island	95	59	78	+1	1.51	---	---	---
	Ord	95	62	78	---	0	1223	1412	1572
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	1324	1523	1621
EC	Lincoln	98	61	80	+1	1.28	1417	1628	1803
	Omaha	95	62	78	+1	.44	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	1307	1502	1691
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	1363	1562	1710
SW	Imperial	95	53	75	---	.53	---	---	---
	North Platte	93	51	74	0	1.24	1239	1418	1468
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	1328	1526	1624
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1360	1558	1627
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	1418	1622	1660
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	1435	1641	1628
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1304	1496	1679

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max temp + min temp divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the High Plains Climate Center